

Montana Newsletter

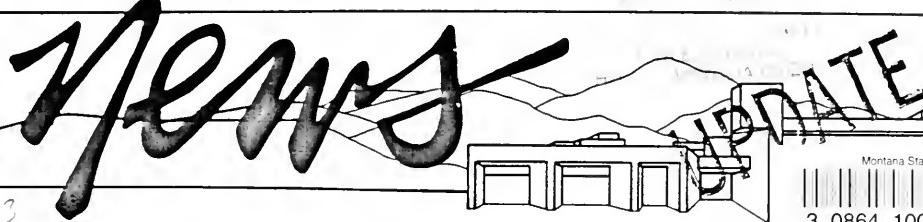
Montana State Library

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY



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Debbie Schlesinger joined the staff of the Montana State Library as interim State Librarian on August 1. Schlesinger is Director of the Lewis and Clark Library in Helena. A search committee is conducting a national search for a new State Librarian. They hope to fill the position by December.

Committee members are as follows: former Lieutenant Governor George Turman; Lewis and Clark Library board member, Dennis Taylor; Miles City Public Library Director, Peggy McElfish; Montana Library Services Advisory council member, Rita Schmidt; Director of the Natural Resources Information System, John Sesso; Acting Director of the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Barbara Ridgway; Chair of the Montana Library Commission, Mary Hudspeth and Library Commissioner, Dr. Henry McClellan.

Jim Heckel, acting director of the Lewis & Clark Library, has accepted the position of Director of the Great Falls Public Library.

The Montana State Library and the Montana Library Services Advisory Council are seeking suggestions from the Montana Library community concerning use of FY 1990 Library Services and Construction Act grant funds. Projects should focus on extension of library services to citizens who are inadequately served because of distance, physical handicaps or other disadvantages or they should promote coordination of resources of Montana libraries or they should encourage and further operation of local, regional and interstate cooperative networks.

Persons who would like a specific project to be considered should contact Sheila Cates by October 21 at the Montana State Library; 1515 E. 6th; Helena, MT 59620; 444-5352.

In 1988, five Montana libraries received Title II Library Services and Construction Act literacy grants. It's already time to prepare to apply for 1989 grants. The United States Department of Education has announced a deadline of November 18, 1988 for submitting applications which will be available on September 19. The application forms will be sent automatically to FY 1988 grantees, FY 1988 eligible applicants, State Librarians and LSCA coordinators in state libraries (in Montana, Sheila Cates.) Libraries not on the Department of Education mailing list may request an application from Frank Stevens, Library Development, Library Programs, U.S. Dept. of Education, 555 New Jersey Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20208-1430. (202) 357-6315.

May 31, 1989 is the target date for announcing awards and the grant period will begin October 1, 1989.

Libraries applying should be aware of the federal regulation requiring applicants to send a copy of their completed applications to the Intergovernmental Review Clearing House (Room 207, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620.) to be assigned a number. This should be done about 30 days before the grant deadline.

PLEASE RETURN

The Census and Economic Information Center (Montana Department of Commerce) and the Natural Resource Information System (Montana State Library) will sponsor a conference on October 13 on the Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing (TIGER) system, a comprehensive geographic computer database of information about the United States. TIGER was developed by the census bureau and the Geographical Information System to help with the 1990 census.

The conference will be held at the Colonial Inn in Helena from 9 to 4 on October 13. The cost to each participant will be \$10 and will include lunch. More information and registration forms may be obtained from Jon Sesso, 444-5355 or from Patricia Roberts, 444-2896.

Judith Krug, of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom will be the key speaker at the Wyoming Library Association conference to be held October 5-8 in Cody, Wyoming. Montana librarians who might be interested in attending the conference should contact Jerry Krois at the Wyoming State Library, (307) 777-7281.

ATTENTION PERSONS PLANNING TO ATTEND THE COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP, "TREASURE OR ALBATROSS" IN ROUNDUP- The location of the workshop has been changed to the Emmanuel Baptist Church basement at 603 Main Street.

Capital Business Systems, Inc. is offering a discount on Harris/3M Models telefacsimile (fax) equipment to county governments. Libraries affiliated with their counties are eligible to receive the discount. Two levels of machine are available; one priced at \$1,150 and one at \$1,600. Linda Brander, Montana Faxnet Project Coordinator, says libraries must order through their county offices to receive the discount. Contact Capital Business Systems; P.O. Box 508; Cheyenne, WY 82001; 800-221-0604.

Public library retreats, sponsored by the Montana Library Association, will be held October 21 and 22 in Helena in the Lewis & Clark Library meeting room and in Miles City on October 28 and 29 at Miles Community College. Workshop topics will include budgeting, fundraising, children's services, grant writing and statistical reporting. Public libraries in the state will soon receive complete details on the retreats.

The Statewide Friends of Libraries group is expanding and gearing up to become very visible during the 1989 legislative session. Montana librarians can have a direct effect on the future of funding for libraries by becoming active in the Friends group and by encouraging persons in their communities to get involved. For more information about joining, contact Friends of Montana Libraries; Sue Nissen; 1722 Farragut; Butte, MT 59701.

Montana State Library
1515 East Sixth Avenue
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